

# Tree/Shrub Pruning

## Maine Conservation Practice Job Sheet

**660**



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### Definition

The removal of all or part of selected branches, leaders or roots from trees and shrubs.

### Purpose

The purpose of this practice is to improve the appearance of trees or shrubs, e.g., ornamental plants and Christmas trees, improve the quality of wood products, and improve the production of plant products, e.g., nuts, fruits, boughs and tips. It also may improve the health and vigor of woody plants e.g. disease, insect and injury management while reducing fire and/or safety hazards. Other purposes include improving the growth and vigor of understory plants, and adjusting the foliage and branching density for other specific intents, such as wind and snow control, noise abatement, access control, and visual screens.

### Where used

This practice is completed on land areas used for recreation, production of non-timber and timber crops, and screens. For example a forest where ginseng is being raised may need trees pruned to increase light to the forest floor.

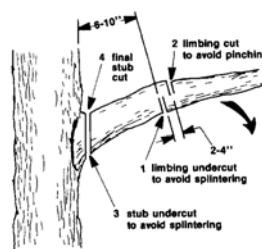
### Operation and maintenance

Periodically inspect plant condition and take corrective actions as necessary, e.g., additional pruning.

### Considerations

The pruning and shearing method and timing will match the limitations of the site and soils, achieve purposes for the specific tree or shrub species, and will be conducted in a safe and efficient manner. Pruning or shearing will not adversely reduce the growth and vigor of the tree or shrub for the intended purpose.

Time pruning and shearing to least disturb seasonal wildlife activities. To maintain plant growth and sustained vigor, pruning and shearing may be done in two or more timed intervals. Time the pruning and shearing to minimize potential damage to the tree bole and stems. Disinfect pruning and shearing tools as needed to prevent the spread of pathogens. Debris and vegetative material left on the site after treatment will not present an unacceptable fire or pest hazard or interfere with the intended purpose and other management activities. Branches removed may be used for other products. Sufficient herbaceous vegetation must be left in the stand following pruning to prevent wind erosion and other natural resource concerns. Comply with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations during the installation, operation and maintenance of this practice, including pre-activity permits, permissions, or notifications.



**Please Note:** In forestland, for the purpose of improving the quality of wood products, a current Forest Management Plan, completed by a Licensed NRCS Forestry/Agroforestry Technical Service

Provider (TSP) is required for this practice. When implementing this practice for that purpose, use a Registered NRCS Forestry/Agroforestry TSP for technical assistance.

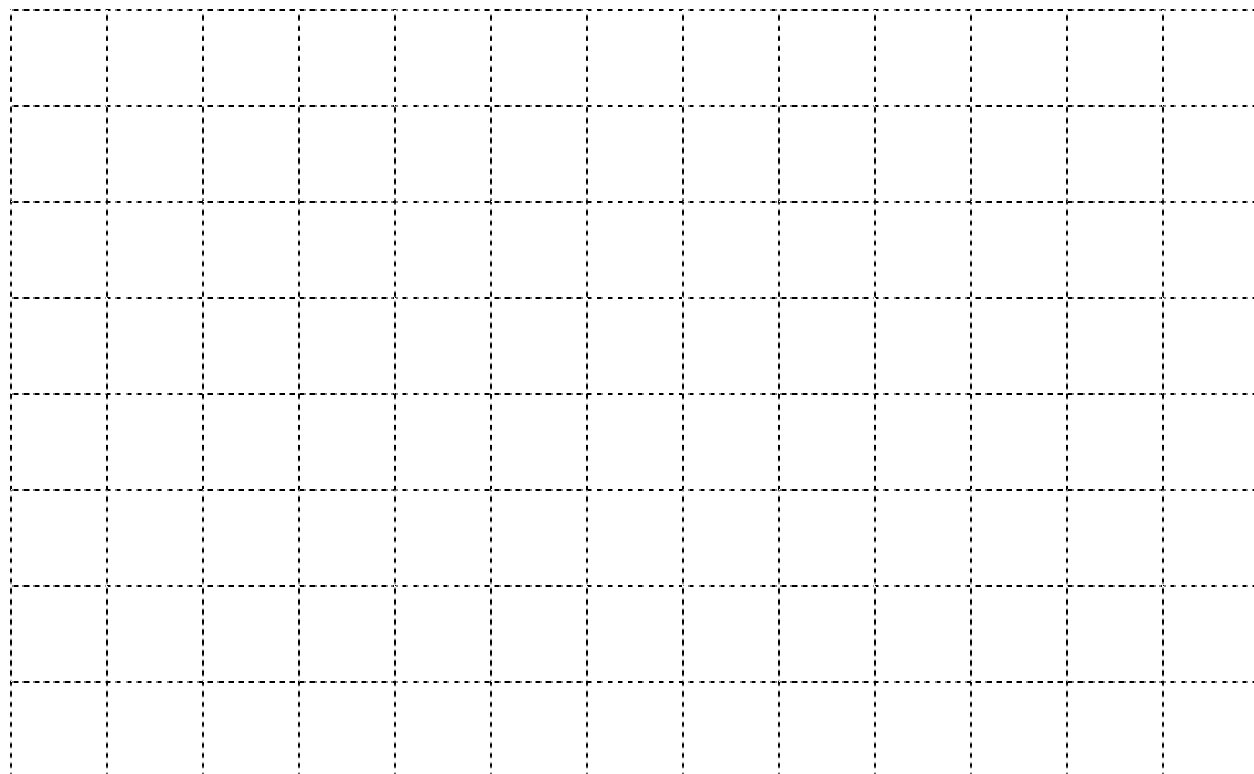
### Specifications

Site-specific requirements are listed on the job sheet. Specifications are prepared in accordance with the ME NRCS Field Office Technical Guide. See practice standard and specification guide for Tree/Shrub Pruning, Code 660 for specific requirements.

## Tree and Shrub Pruning – Job Sketch Sheet

If needed, an aerial view of the practice location can be shown below. Other relevant information, complementary practices and measures, and additional specifications may be included.

Scale 1"= \_\_\_\_\_ ft. (NA indicates sketch not to scale: grid size=1/2" by 1/2")



### Additional Specifications and Notes:


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## Tree/Shrub Pruning – Job Sheet

<i>For:</i>		<i>Farm #:</i>	
<i>Field(s):</i>		<i>Tract #:</i>	
<i>Designed By</i>	<i>Lic. #:</i>	<i>Approved By:</i>	<i>Lic. #:</i>
<i>Drawing No(s):</i>		<i>Signature:</i>	
<i>Date:</i>		<i>Date:</i>	

Purpose (check all that apply)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Improve the quality of wood products	<input type="checkbox"/> Adjust the foliage and branching density for other specific intents, such as wind and snow control, noise abatement, access control, and visual screens
<input type="checkbox"/> Improve the growth and vigor of understory plants	<input type="checkbox"/> Improve the health and vigor of woody plants e.g. disease, insect and injury management
<input type="checkbox"/> Improve the appearance of trees and shrubs, e.g. ornamental plants and Christmas trees	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify):
<input type="checkbox"/> Improve aesthetic, recreation, and open space values	
<input type="checkbox"/> Improve the production of plant products, e.g. nuts, fruits, boughs and tips (Specify: )	
<input type="checkbox"/> Reduce fire and / or safety hazards	

Project site general soil moisture regime is \_\_\_Dry \_\_\_Moist \_\_\_Wet or poorly-drained

Tree/Shrub pruning will be done during the following time period(s) (specify dates): \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.

Detailed Pruning Specifications - Refer to ME Code 660, Tree/Shrub Pruning, Standard and Specification Guide					
Field/ Stand	Ac	No	Plant Species (common name)	Height Range to be pruned	Remarks

Method of Debris Disposal (Include information on salable or usable products):

Special Instructions (Other values and considerations):

Installation shall be in accordance with the specified drawings, specifications, and special requirements. **No changes are to be made in the drawings or specifications without prior approval of {name of technical specialist} at {phone number}.** Questions regarding the tree/shrub pruning should be directed to [name of technical specialist], at [phone number].